



The Urban Farm at Southeast Ohio Regional Kitchen



Purpose

The Urban Farm at Southeast Ohio Regional Kitchen provides a stream of fresh locally grown produce available to Hocking County senior citizens using Senior Farmer's Market vouchers through the Ohio Area Agency on Aging. Extension developed a plan, partnered with local sponsors, and constructed an urban farm on land behind the local food bank.

Vegetables and herbs are grown using bio-intensive production techniques, harvested and delivered based on menu choices and seasonality.

Impact

The Urban Farm provides Hocking County's only fresh stream of local seasonable produce to improve nutrition in Meals on Wheels, senior food insecurity and the USDA Summer Food Service Program.

Certification as a farm was completed with one week left in the 2016 voucher season. One week's sales of \$125 showed promise for program success going forward.

True sustainability is our goal. Voucher and business sales are providing a consistent income stream to allow farming without the need for yearly grant funding.

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

OSU Extension, Hocking County, Agriculture and Natural Resources

Community Partners Involved

HAPCAP - Hocking, Athens, Perry
Community Action Partners
The Southeast Ohio Regional Kitchen
The Ohio Area Agency on Aging
Scenic Hills Senior Center, Logan, Ohio
Hocking County Commissioners
Hocking Valley Community Hospital
City of Logan, Ohio
Athens Hocking Recycling Center LLC
Webb's Perennials LLC
Mike's Lumber LLC



How you can get involved:

- Support your local food bank by volunteering or making donations of food or money.
- Contact us if you think this idea might benefit your county as it was designed to be easily reproduced.
- Learn more about growing your own food at home or in a community garden plot to increase food security for your family.

To get involved, contact:

Timothy McDermott, DVM
Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Educator
mcdermott.15@osu.edu
<https://u.osu.edu/mcdermott.15/category/the-urban-farm-at-seo-regional-kitchen/>



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